



SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION
CLC

SEIU Minnesota State Council

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

As the President of the Service Employees International Union Minnesota State Council, I am writing to urge you to support the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile. SEIU represents 30,000 workers in Minnesota. We are security officers, healthcare workers, window cleaners, janitors, food service workers, secretaries and long-term care workers who make our state and nation run. We care for our sick, our elderly and our children. Our members have been hard hit by the economic turndown. This merger represents a bright light for working families in Minnesota and around the country.

The merger will provide substantial benefits to Minnesota families as they continue to confront significant economic uncertainty in their day-to-day lives. Unfortunately, job losses, wage and benefit reductions have become all too frequent occurrences. Not surprisingly, this comes at a time when union membership has declined in several sectors.

Today, AT&T is the only employer in the telecommunications industry to employ unionized workers and has not interfered with organizing efforts. Unfortunately, that is not currently the case with T-Mobile, whose employees do not have the opportunity to be represented by, or enjoy the countless benefits of collective bargaining. Moreover, workers at T-Mobile are subject to a number of anti-union tactics. Through the merger, these workers will finally be able to decide for themselves if they want to join together in a union. This is a basic right for all workers and I hope you will extend those rights to the workers of T-Mobile.

More broadly, this merger will allow the United States to continue building an economy that truly provides opportunity for all. Right now, tens of thousands of our citizens do not have access to the most advanced wireless and broadband technology. Through the merger, an estimated 55 million more Americans will have access to 4G LTE wireless technology, which will increase business opportunities, communication between families and learning opportunities. And AT&T's planned investment over the next seven years to update and expand its wireless infrastructure will create jobs today and prepare our nation for long-term economic growth.

For all these reasons, I hope you will join SEIU and the thousands of workers we represent in supporting the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile. Doing so will expand the rights of workers, create more and improved wireless options for consumers, and help eliminate the digital divide in our nation.

Sincerely,



Julie Schnell
President, SEIU Minnesota State Council

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

